

REPORT ON EXPOSURE VISIT

STATE: TAMIL NADU

Duration: 7 Days (19th Nov. to 24th Nov.2012)

The members of the team are –

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dr. Runu Dutta | Director, |
| 2. Sri Jagannath Das, | Sr. Research Officer |
| 3. Sri Biswajit Barua, | Sr. Research Officer |
| 4. Sri Hareswar Mahanta, | Research Officer |
| 5. Sri Dilip Buragohain, | Research Assistant. |

Objective:

Decentralized Planning is a critical instrument which can be used in direct investments in areas which is lagging behind in development relatively. Already Central Government and most of the State Governments have introduced some Area Development Plan like MPLADS, MLAADS, Special problem schemes and different development schemes announced by the Prime Minister and Chief Ministers of state government. As Planning and Development Department is the State Nodal Department for plan coordination and overall development of the state of Assam, a visit for conducting a broad based interaction and exchange of views with the officers involved in this area in Tamil Nadu, field level observations of the impacts, exchange of mutually beneficial techniques and sharing of success stories etc. is required for enriching of ideas to better the strategies for development perspective in our state.

Tamil Nadu is one of the most progressive and developing state in India. The **Economy of Tamil Nadu** is one of the most consistent and developing state in India. Tamil Nadu has the highest level of urbanization (49%) against 9.6% India's urban population. The state is well equipped with all the needed infrastructural support to boost economic growth and enhance industrial development of the state. Tamil Nadu has maintained a perfect balance between agricultural production and industrial development. In many respects, Tamil Nadu has achieved levels of human development superior to most states in India. The state has maintained 10% GSDP growth. After nineties the state has made tremendous development in Education, Health, Science & Technology Transport and Communication etc.

Hence it is necessary for the development aspirant people to know the path of development of Tamil Nadu and this is the reason behind selection of destination.

Discussion with concerned officers relating to Planning and Development activities.

- Ms. Shantha Shella Nair (retired IAS officer), Vice Chairperson of Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, and with other officers of the Commission.
- Dr. S. Vijay Kumar, IAS, Commissioner and Secretary Rural Development and Panchyati Raj Department, Addl. Director and Joint Directors of the Deptt.,
- Director SIRD, Faculty Members of SIRD.
- Commissioner of TMC and SE, EE AEE of the corporation, Chairman and Commissioner of Tambram Municipality,
- Deputy Collector of Kanchipuram.
- Chairman and Secretary of Kanchipuram District Panchayat,

- Project Director DRDA Kanchipuram District, BDOs of Pudubharam Block Panchayat, President and Secretary of Mudichur Gram Panchayat and with the NGO who are engaged for rural development activity of the State.



Ms. Shantha Shella, IAS (Rtd.) Vice Chairman, Tamilnadu S P C



Discussion with Deputy Director (SPC)

Details of discussion with Ms. Shantha Shella Nair a retired IAS officer, Vice Chairperson and other officers of **Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission** is highlighted below:

The Planning Development and Special Initiatives Department is a unit in the Tamil Nadu Secretariat. It has three wings and its offices are outside the secretariat campus.

These are:

1. *State Planning Commission*
2. *Directorate of Economics and Statistics*
3. *Department of Evaluation and Applied Research.*

The State Planning Commission was constituted in Tamil Nadu in 1971 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister as an Advisory Body to make recommendations to the Government on various matters pertaining to the development of the State. The Additional Chief Secretary, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives and the Principal Secretary, Finance Department are ex-officio members. The Member Secretary is responsible for administration in the Commission. The Commission has been reconstituted in 2011 and the present composition is as follows:

Chairperson	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Vice-Chairperson	Smt. Santha Sheela Nair, I.A.S .,(Retd.)
Part-Time Members	
	Dr. V. Shantha
	Dr. K. Sridhar
	Dr. K. Ramasamy
	Dr. A.C. Muthiah
Member-Secretary	Thiru. M. Balaji, I.A.S.,
Ex-officio Members	
	The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department
	The Principal Secretary to Government of TN, Finance Department

The major functions of the State Planning Commission are as follows:

1. Preparation of Five Year and Annual Plans based on the policies and priorities of the Government;
2. Undertake Mid Term review of the Five Year Plan, other special reviews on the Economy and advise the Government on appropriate modification and restructuring of the schemes;
3. Monitor development indicators that influence the Human Development Index, Gender Development Index, etc., at a disaggregated level and suggest correctional measures;
4. Undertake special studies as required for formulation and implementation of plan projects and programmes .

The Commission has the following divisions:

1. Agricultural Policy and Planning
2. Industries, Power and Transport
3. Land Use
4. Education and Employment
5. Health and Social Welfare
6. District Planning and Rural Development
7. Plan Co-ordination

The State's Annual Plan largely follows the objectives and priorities of the Five Year Plan of the State as well as Central plan. The draft Annual Plan 2012-13 has been prepared for an outlay of Rs. 28,000 crores, which is almost 19% more than the outlay of Annual Plan 2011-12 (Rs. 23,835 crores).

Vision 2023 Tamil Nadu

Vision 2023 Tamil Nadu identifies ten themes for the state as follows:

1. Tamil Nadu will be amongst India's most economically prosperous states by 2023, achieving a six-fold growth in per capita income (in real terms) over the next 11 years to be at par with the Upper Middle Income countries globally.
2. Tamil Nadu will exhibit a highly inclusive growth pattern – it will largely be a poverty free state with opportunities for gainful and productive employment for all those who seek it and will provide care for the disadvantaged, vulnerable and the destitute in the state.
3. Tamil Nadu will be India's leading state in social development and will have the highest Human Development Index (HDI) amongst all Indian states.
4. Tamil Nadu will provide the best infrastructure services in India in terms of universal access to Housing, Water & Sanitation, Energy, Transportation, Irrigation, Connectivity, Healthcare, and Education.
5. Tamil Nadu will be one of the top three preferred investment destinations in Asia and the most preferred in India with a reputation for efficiency and competitiveness.
6. Tamil Nadu will be known as the innovation hub and knowledge capital of India, on the strength of world class institutions in various fields and the best human talent.
7. Tamil Nadu will ensure Peace, Security and Prosperity for all citizens and business, enabling free movement and exchange of ideas, people and trade with other Indian states and rest of the world.
8. Tamil Nadu will preserve and care for its ecology and heritage.
9. Tamil Nadu will actively address the causes of vulnerability of the state and its people due to uncertainties arising from natural causes, economic downturns, and other man-made reasons and mitigate the adverse effects.
10. Tamil Nadu will nurture a culture of responsive and transparent Governance that ensures progress, security and equal opportunity to all stakeholders.

Regarding devolution of fund to PRIs, found that, it is yet to take place like Kerala and other states. Only a lump sum amount is given to the District Panchayat through Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department. This is because of huge pumping of funds for rural development programme both under central and state sponsored schemes. Schemes like MGNREG, RIDF(NABARD), PMGSY, IAY, THAI, CHGHS, SSS, CWSP etc. have been implementing under Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Deptt. In addition most of the sectoral schemes are rural base schemes. In Tamil Nadu 49 % population lives in urban areas. It has 10 municipal corporations, 125 municipalities and 524 town panchayats. The urban local bodies generate funds for development works, property tax, fees, fine etc. Budgetary support from govt. is very little.

Eleventh Five Year Plan:

In 2007-08, while the approved outlay was Rs 14,000 crore (expenditure was Rs 14,224 crore), in 2008-09 Rs. 16,000 crore (expenditure was Rs 16,275 crore), in 2009-10 Rs 17,500 crore (expenditure was Rs 17,834 crore), in 2010-11 it was Rs 20,068 crore (expenditure was Rs 20,465 crore), in 2011-12 it was Rs 23,535 crore (expenditure was Rs 24,098 crore),

Outlays & Expenditure during Annual Plans 2007-2012 (Rs.in crore)

Year	Approved Outlay	Expenditure
11 th FYP (2007-2012)		
2007-2008	14,000	14,224
2008-2009	16,000	16,275
2009-2010	17,500	17,834
2010-2011	20,068	20,465
2011-2012	23,535	24,098

From the above table it is observed that expenditure exceeded approved outlay during every year of the Eleventh Plan period. **The Vice Chairman stated that rigidity, accountability, proper monitoring and reviewing works properly are the main features of the success story.** Once plan is finalized it must be materialized. Fund is released in two installments i.e. in June and December in every year. However, the growth in the critical sectors of power, industry and agriculture lagged and only higher growth in services enabled the economy to achieve an estimated AAGR of 8.3% over the 2007-2012 periods.

Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012 – 2017)

Activities for formulating the Twelfth Five Year Plan of the State have been taken up by the State Planning Commission. The Commission's draft report proposes to hike the outlay to an ambitious target of Rs.2.11 lakh crores for Plan schemes over the Twelfth Five Year Plan period, which is 2.34 times the outlay of Rs.85, 344 crores during the Eleventh Five Year Plan keeping in view the ambitious vision 2023.

Annual Plan 2012 –13

The Annual Plan 2012-2013 is the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017). The size of the Annual Plan for 2012-2013 has been proposed at Rs.28, 000 crores. The Plan schemes, component and size will be finalized during the discussion to be held between the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission at New Delhi.

Tamil Nadu State Land Use Plan:

The State Planning Commission has also been entrusted to prepare land use plan. The objectives of the plan are:

- To assess the land resources, provide advice to Government for policy planning, co-ordination, develop an over view and possible priorities for land use changes, especially in the diversion of fertile agriculture lands, development of waste lands and marginal lands for alternative uses and to promote integrated scientific planning;
- To review programme implementation, promote formation of a database and utilize this database for integrated and perspective planning;
- To advise the Government on sound, scientific and policy interventions to mitigate or abate environmental impacts of pollution and global warming; and
- To conserve and manage land and water resources.

SPECIAL INITIATIVE:

1.Metro Rail Project:

Chennai Metro Rail Project has been declared as a 'Special Initiative' of the Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department. With the rapid growth of the Chennai Metropolis, there has been increasing pressure on transport infrastructure, especially due to runaway growth in road traffic volumes.

In addition this Vision document also envisages a total investment in key infrastructure projects of Rs.15,00,000 crores, which would create huge positive externalities and open up the economy for rapid growth. An amount of Rs.1, 000 crores has been allocated to Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board with the Chief Minister as the Chairperson for implementation of the new projects for the year 2012-2013.

2.State Balance growth fund:

Tamil Nadu Government is aware of the vast regional disparities in key parameters of development across various regions of the State. In order to correct these regional imbalances, 100 most backward blocks and backward urban local bodies will be identified based on indicators in sectors like health, education, gender related indicators and other indicators like per capita income, incidence of poverty and unemployment. The Government will constitute a State Balanced Growth Fund (SBGF) and targeted programmes will be launched in these identified areas with the objective of correcting these disparities. To make a beginning, a sum of Rs.100 crores has been provided under this scheme.

DECENTRALISED PLANNING

District Planning and Rural Development Division

Activities of the Division:

1. Preparation of Five Year Plans – Rural Development part
2. Preparation of Annual Plans – Appraisal of Part II (New) Schemes, Finalisation of scheme-wise outlays (Part I and Part II)
3. Preparation of sectoral profiles and statements for rural development sector
4. Preparation of Human Development Reports – State and Districts
5. Compilation of data on Human Development and Poverty indicators



Meeting with Dr. S. Vijayakumar, I.A.S., Commissioner , Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

Dr. S. Vijayakumar, I.A.S., is the **Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj**. He oversees all matters pertaining to Panchayat Raj Institutions in the State as well as the implementation of Centrally sponsored schemes like PMGSY, RIDF(NABARD), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) etc. and State-funded Schemes like Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement Scheme(THAI), Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS), Self Sufficiency Scheme, Solar Powered Green House Scheme etc. The Commissioner of Rural development and Panchayat Raj coordinates all establishment matters pertaining to the Department. The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is responsible for the implementation of various Centrally-sponsored, State-funded, and Externally-aided schemes for poverty alleviation, employment generation, sanitation, capacity building, women's social and economic empowerment, Tsunami rehabilitation, apart from provision of basic amenities and services. The Department is also entrusted with the responsibility of enabling the various Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) to function as effective units of Local Self-Government. There are 12,620 Village Panchayats, 385 Panchayat Unions (co-terminus with Blocks) and 31 District Panchayats under the purview of the Department.



Meeting with the Officers , Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

STATE SCHEMES

1. THAI Scheme (Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement) Scheme

- For the first time in the Rural Development History of India, “Habitation” is considered as the development unit.
- Introduction of “Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement Scheme” (THAI) is a paradigm shift in rural planning and implementation.
- The objective is to provide all basic amenities to all habitations and there by prevents the disparities in development among habitations.
- Rs.3400 crores allocation planned for 5 years.
- Rs.680 crores sanctioned for the year 2011-12.
- The scheme has been programmed to be implemented in V phases from 2011-12 to 2015-16. During 2011-12 a total of 25,335 habitations in 2,020 Village Panchayats have been selected for implementation with an annual allocation of Rs. 680 crores.

Year wise Implementation

Sl. No	Year	No. of Village Panchayat	No. of Habitations
1	2011-12	2,020	25,335
2	2012-13	2,250	18,581
3	2013-14	2,500	15,115
4	2014-15	2,740	12,093
5	2015-16	3,014	8,270

79,394 habitations in all 12,524 Village Panchayats will be provided with all basic amenities by 2015-16.

Types of works under THAI scheme

Sl. No.	Minimum Basic Requirements	Additional Requirements
1.	Water Supply	Anganwadi Centres
2.	Street Lights	Public Distribution Shops
3.	Roads	SHG Buildings
4.	Burial Grounds	Threshing Floor
5.	Pathway to Burial Grounds	Play Ground





Visit of THAI scheme

THAI Scheme



Cement Concrete Road



Pathway to Burial Grounds



B.T.Road



Water Supply



Street Lights

2. Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme :

- This scheme is fully funded by State Government.
- People living below poverty line in rural areas are eligible.
- Each house measure about 300 sq. ft.
- Unit cost of each house is Rs.1.80 lakh.
- Solar Home Lighting Systems is an important feature.
- 3 lakh Houses to be constructed in five Years.
- Allocation for ST: 1%, SC: 29%, & Others : 70%.
- Budgetary support Rs. 1080 Crores for 2011 -12 for the construction of 60,000 Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House.

All the 60,000 Green Houses targeted for 2011-12 have been started after selection of beneficiaries by the Gram Sabha.

Plan of Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme 2011-12



Specifications:

Living Room : 97 sq. ft
Bed Room : 71 sq. ft
Kitchen : 46 sq. ft
Toilet : 18 sq. ft
Wall Area : 68 sq. ft

Chief Ministers Solar Powered Green House Scheme 2011-12



3. Energizing the Street Lights with Solar Energy

- Energisation of Street Lights with Solar Power Scheme is a fully state funded scheme introduced by the Government under which existing street lights in the Village Panchayats will be replaced with solar powered street lights with an objective of reduction in the maintenance expenditure as well as saving power and promote the concept of renewable energy in rural areas.
- This programme is implemented in the village panchayats on an experimental basis. Initially, 1,00,000 street lights in 1,000 Village Panchayats will be taken up for replacement with solar power over a period of 5 years upto 2016.
- Rs.52.50 crores has been sanctioned for energisation of 20,000 street lights with solar power in Village Panchayats during the financial year 2011-12
- Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) is the executing Agency. In the year 2012 -13 also street lights will be energised with Solar Power with an estimated amount of Rs.46.60 crore.

3. Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CSIDS)

- Since the earlier scheme has not addressed many of the needs like kitchen shed, water supply facilities, toilets etc., the Government has announced a new scheme, "Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CSIDS)"
- To provide basic infrastructure facilities like new buildings, kitchen shed, water supply, toilets etc. in the Panchayat Union Schools.
- The aim of the new scheme is to provide all basic amenities to the Panchayat Union schools over a period of 5 years.
- Repairs and renovation of existing facilities will also be taken up wherever necessary.
- For the year 2011 – 12, an amount of Rs.100 crore has been earmarked. 4,860 New school buildings, kitchen sheds and toilet works have been taken up. 5,862 repair works have also been taken up.
- For the year 2012 -13 a sum of Rs.100 crore has also been allocated.

4. Rural Buildings Maintenance and Renovation scheme :

- Rural Buildings Maintenance and Renovation Scheme (RBMRS) was introduced with an objective of maintaining the assets of rural Local Bodies. Continuous and proper maintenance of the buildings would be done so as to have the full utilisation of the assets created.
- Assets of the rural Local Bodies such as Anganwadi Centers, Panchayat office buildings, Overhead tanks, Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women etc. are taken up under the scheme for renovation.
- For the year 2011- 12, renovation of 12,811 Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women was carried out exclusively under the Rural Buildings Maintenance and Renovation Scheme with a total allocation of Rs.170 crores so as to bring them back to usable condition and provided the much needed sanitary requirement for the rural women.
- scheme will be continued in the year 2012 – 13 also with an allocation of Rs.100 crores.

6. Integrated Sanitary Complex for Women (IWSC)

- Each complex has 14 water closets, 2 bathrooms, 1 water tub and stone-paved washing facilities.
- Adequate water supply for washing and bathing requirements.
- The complexes were provided with incinerators for disposal of the sanitary napkins of the user women.
- One toilet unit with western closet exclusively for the differently able / aged persons.
- One baby friendly toilet unit

User Groups

- User groups have been formed for all the complexes and the renovated complexes have been handed over to them for day to day maintenance.



5. Self Sufficiency Scheme (SSS):

- In order to improve the self support mechanism of public and to enhance increased public participation in creation and maintaining community infrastructures, the Government has introduced the 'Self Sufficiency Scheme'.
- Government have sanctioned Rs. 100 crores for the year 2011-12.
- 1,830 works have been taken up.
- Public contribution to the tune of Rs.60 crore had been raised to create useful community assets.
- Out of the works taken up,
 - ✓ 23% - road connectivity
 - ✓ 7% - construction of School Buildings, Toilets, Laboratory, Noon-Meals centres etc.,
 - ✓ 7% - water supply

For the year 2012 -13, Rs.100 crore has been provided

6. Rural Infrastructure Scheme (RIS):

The objective of the Rural Infrastructure Scheme was to stabilize the assets created under MGNREGS and to create basic infrastructure facilities and durable assets in the villages. For the year 2011-12, an amount of Rs.250 crores had been allotted for this purpose under State Finance Commission Grant and the priorities as below:

- Upgradation of existing Earthen and Gravel roads into WBM roads;
- Upgradation of existing WBM roads into BT Roads;
- Repairs to the sluices, surplus weirs, construction of retaining wall in the water bodies desilted under MGNREGS;
- Construction of culverts and retaining walls in the newly formed roads under MGNREGS.

7. Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS):

- 100% funded by Government of Tamil Nadu.
- 234 Elected MLAs and 1 Nominated MLA.

Allocation enhanced by the Government from Rs.1.75 crore to Rs.2.00 crore per year per MLA and has sanctioned Rs.470 crores for 2011-12. Guidelines have been issued by State Government for taking up of works under the Scheme. Government has recently sanctioned Laptops for all MLAs. For the year 2012 –13 also, an allocation of Rs.470 crore have been provided. The following items of works were held as priority under the earmarked component of Rs. 1.00 crore. Works to be taken up under the Tied Component of Rs 87.50 lakhs . Since a large number of Anganwadi Buildings, Noon Meal Centers, Noon Meal kitchen sheds, especially in urban areas and to a lesser extent in rural areas are functioning in dilapidated buildings, a phased program of construction of new buildings for such cases have to be taken up. (i) Rs. 20 lakhs for construction of Anganwadi Buildings, Noon Meal Centers, Noon Meal Kitchen Sheds from MLACDs in rural and urban areas, (ii) Rs.5 lakhs for aids and appliances for differently able persons and thus a total amount of Rs.58.75 crores shall be made available for such works in the State. From the remaining amount of Rs.62.50 lakhs of the Tied Component, the MLA can choose one or more of the following works for any amount according to his choice, subject to the overall ceiling of Rs.62.50 lakhs.

a) In Rural Areas:

1. Upgradation of gravel/WBM Roads to BT standard.
2. Renewal of badly worn out BT Roads (lying of BT layer only with filling up of potholes, if necessary.)
3. Lying of Cement Concrete Roads.
4. Provision of buildings and / or compound walls for Government and Local Body hospitals, Primary Health Centre, Government Veterinary Hospitals and also for Government Schools, Adi dravida schools, Kallar reclamation schools, Government colleges and Hostels. Provision of infrastructural facilities to Government special schools for the disabled and Government orphanages. Construction of bridges. Provision of additional burial grounds / cremation grounds as per AGAMT pattern in uncovered habitation in AGAMT Village Panchayats from 2006-07 to 2010-11. Construction of new houses and up gradation of kutcha houses as per IAY norms.

b) In Urban Areas:

1. Up gradation of gravel/WBM Roads to BT standard.
2. Renewal of badly worn out BT Roads (laying of BT layer only with filling up of potholes, if necessary.)
3. Laying of Cement Concrete Roads.
4. Provision of buildings and / or compound walls for Government and Local Body hospitals, Primary Health Centre, Government Veterinary Hospitals and also for Government Schools, Adi dravida schools, Kallar reclamation schools, Government colleges and Hostels. Provision of infrastructural facilities to Government special schools for the disabled and Government orphanages. Construction of bridges. Provision of infrastructure facilities to Burial Grounds/ Cremation Grounds. Provision of Concrete Pavements, with storm water drains if so required. Formation of new Public Parks. Construction of Public Toilets.
5. Purchase of Jetrodding Machines and hydraulically operated sewerage machines.

Works to be taken up under the Untied Component of Rs.87.50 lakhs
Any works not falling within the following 'negative list/prohibited works' can be taken up under the untied component of MLACDS. Works falling under the tied component also can be taken up under untied component.

Photograph : Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)



Cement Road



School Compound Wall



P.D.S. shop

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

Indira Awas Yojana(IAY) :

- Unit cost fixed by Government of India is Rs. 45,000 (Centre: State - 75:25)
- The government has increased the unit cost of IAY houses to Rs. 1 lakh by increasing the State contribution : **GOI share : Rs. 33,750/- : State Government share: Rs. 66,250/-**
- For the year 2011-12, construction of 1, 00,553 houses have been taken up at an amount of Rs.1005.53 crores.
- Beneficiaries have been selected and work orders issued.
- For the year 2012 – 13 a total of 1,11,410 Houses allotted for an estimated amount of Rs.1114.10 crore



Name of work : Construction of Group House at uppupalayan H/O Perunkurichi
Sulochana w/o Kannan - IAY 2011-2012 Kabilarmalai block Estimate Rs-1.00 Lakhs

Photograph of IAY Houses

Kanchipuram District Profile

The district has a total geographical area of 4,43,210 hectares and coastline of 57 Kms. Kanchipuram, the temple town is the District head quarter. The District has been divided into 3 revenue divisions comprising of 8 Taluks with 1214 Revenue villages. For development reasons, it is divided into 13 Development Blocks with 648 Village Panchayats. All the backward communities of Tamil Nadu are present in the district. Kanchipuram town is also known as Silk City since the main profession of the people living in and around is weaving.

Industrial Scenario in Kanchipuram

One of the largest industrial areas of Tamil Nadu, Kanchipuram District have the pride in being home to vital production bases of international industrial groups viz. Ford, Hyundai, Nokia, Samsung, Saint Gobain as well as many export houses in and around. The District Collector plays a vital role in development matters. He has to accord Administrative Approval of the state govt. schemes up to Rs 1.00 crore. The entire Fund under Rural Development Schemes rotates to Block through District Collector. He reviews all the schemes under various departments every month. Grievance redressal is another vital function that he has to perform.



Discussion with Shri L. Sitherasenan, I.A.S District Collector Kanchipuram District



Meeting with Chairman and secretary of District Panchayat, Kanchipuram District

Details of discussion with PD DRDA, Kanchipuram District

It is informed that Keeping in view the 73rd Amendment Act and subsequent enactment of the Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act 1994 a three tier Panchayat Raj system with Village Panchayat at grass root level, Panchayat Union at intermediate level and District Panchayat at the District level was constituted for the rural local bodies in the State. The District Panchayats in the Tamil Nadu are functioning as advisory body. However this tier is empowered with planning, coordination in respect of various subjects as provided in the panchayat act. The responsibility of identification of works under some of the State and central sector schemes has been given to the District Panchayat. District Panchayat can sanction and execute works upto Rs.10 lakhs from their general fund (own fund) without any external approval.

District Planning Committee

District Planning committee have been constituted in all the 31 except Chennai district in the State as envisaged in Act 243 ZD of the Constitution and as per the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act. The Chairman of the District Panchayat is the Chairman of the District Planning Committee and Collector of the District is the Vice-Chairman of the DPC. The Mayor of the City Municipal Corporation in the district is also a member of the DPC. The chairpersons of the Town Panchayat, Municipality, Panchayat Union, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Members of the Parliament are the permanent special invitees of the committee without voting right. The district level officers of the government and government bodies is the special invitees of the Committee. The Secretary of the District Panchayat is the Secretary of the District Planning Committee. Though the main function of the Committee is to consolidate the plans prepared by the panchayats and municipalities in the district and to prepare a comprehensive draft district development plan for the district as a whole, the system is yet to be operationalised fully like Kerala and other state of the country. Tamil Nadu Govt. is yet to devolve fund and functionary to PRI as per 73rd and 74th amendment act. Only a lump sum amount is given to District Panchayats. The District Panchayat equally divides the fund amount the elected members of the Zila Panchayat.



Meeting with PD DRDA and BDO at Block office



View of Maduranthagam Block Office

A meeting was arranged at Maduranthagam Block Headquarter with the PD DRDA, Kanchipuram District, BDOs and Deputy BDOs, and other Technical officers of the Block. Traditionally the Block Development Offices (Panchayat Union) in Tamil Nadu is administratively and technically very strong. It has both administrative and technical wing. In every block office there are 2 (two)BDOs, 9(nine) Deputy BDOs and in technical side there is one Block Engineer in the rank of Asstt. Engineer, 5 Junior engineers. There is also a Zonal Engineer in the rank of Asstt. Executive Engineer in every 3 numbers of Block office. The extent of technical and administrative sanctioning power in case of rural development schemes is highlighted below :

Category of engineer	Extent of power	
	Technical Sanction	Administrative approval
1	2	3
Block Engineer (Asstt. Engineer)	Rs. 2.00 lakh	District Collector can accord administrative approval up to Rs 1.00 crore. Other officers of Rural Development Deptt. has no administrative sanctioning power.
Zonal Engineer (Asstt. Executive Engineer)	Rs. 5.00 lakh	
Executive Engineer	Rs. 30.00 lakh	
Superintending Engineer	Rs. 100.00 lakh	

The devolution of power in such a way has made implementation process very easy and quick.

The Block Panchayats have the following powers:

- Block Panchayats are permitted to take up works upto Rs.5 lakh without any approval by external authority.
- Block Panchayats is a nodal agency for performing functions to implement most of the developmental programmes under Centrally Sponsored Schemes like PMGSY, RIDF(NABARD), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), IAY, MPLADS etc. and State-funded Schemes like Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement Scheme(THAI), Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS), Self Sufficiency Scheme, Solar Powered Green House Scheme etc. All the beneficiaries under any scheme are selected in Gram Sabha meeting. The most significant institution for participatory democracy and decentralization has been the Gram Sabha. It provides an opportunity for direct and active participation of the people

in self-governance. It is a forum in every locality to meet and discuss the local development problems and consequently, understand the needs and aspirations of the community. It ensures transparency and accountability in the PRI system.



Meeting with President and Secretary of Mudichur Gram Panchayat

The TN Government has devolved a number of administrative and financial powers to the lowest tier of PRI System i.e. Gram Panchayat so as to enable them to function as local self government institution. Some of them are listed below:

- The Gram Panchayat President is the Executive authority in respect of all the administrative and financial matters in a Gram Panchayat.
 - The responsibility in selecting individual beneficiaries in respect of all Poverty Alleviation Programmes and selected welfare programmes have been entrusted to the Gram Panchayats and more specifically to Gram Sabha.
 - Gram Panchayat does not depend on external approval for administrative sanction for works upto Rs. 2.00 lakhs, taken up from their own sources .
 - Gram Panchayats have been given freedom to execute works upto Rs.2000/- at a time and Rs.5000/- for the whole year without any sanction from technical authorities.
 - Presidents have been empowered to draw self cheque upto Rs.500/- to meet the contingency expenditure.
 - Gram Panchayats are empowered to use the services of Chartered Private Engineer for estimation, supervision of works and execution of works with an estimate upto Rs.1.00 lakh from Panchayat general fund (Own).
 - Power to approve layouts and building plans in Gram Panchayat area have been given to the President. In Tamil Nadu, it is the responsibility of the concerned Gram Panchayat to ensure that the Gram Sabha meetings are held four times a year. The meetings should be conducted in such a way that interval between two meetings shall not exceed more than 6 months. According to instructions issued by the Government, the Gram Sabha will meet at least on four important days as mentioned below in a year.
-
- 26th January, 1st May
 - 15th August and 2nd October

The meeting is generally convened by the President of the Gram Panchayat. The annual budget, proposals for taxation and all development related activities are discussed and finalised in the Gram Sabha meeting. Selection of beneficiaries under poverty alleviation (infrastructure development) programmes through the Gram Sabha has been made mandatory. The Gram Sabha is the only forum that provides opportunities to the adult villagers to directly participate and suggest what can and needs to be done for the development of their panchayats. A Gram Sabha consists of all persons in the village registered in the electoral rolls. All adults residing in the area of the Gram Sabha are considered to be its members. Gram Sabha should be made more active so that social awareness and consciousness is stipulated for an increased involvement and participation in the development as well as decision making functions at the grass root level



Meeting with Chairman of Tambaram Municipality in Kanchipuram District



Meeting with Secretary of Tambaram Municipality in Kanchipuram District

The rapid urban growth has created a huge gap in the provision of basic services and infrastructure facilities in the urban areas. This is due to lack of adequate resources, technical expertise, managerial men and powers at the municipality's level. As a result of which the gap between the needs and availability of basic services has been getting widened. To overcome the shortcomings of the conventional master planning and to improve the urban infrastructure services in a sustainable manner, the City Corporate Planning (CCP) approach has been adopted. The City Corporate Plan has become a handy tool which adapts a corporate approach to plan and implement projects in a participatory mechanism involving users, elected representatives, line agencies, private organizations, and NGOs. The focus of CCP is preparation of 5 years capital investment programme taking into account the stakeholders' priority and the financial strength of the ULB. Almost all the items listed in schedule X of the District Municipality Act amended in accordance with the 74th Constitution (Amendment) Act. The local bodies itself can prepare the plan or through the appointment of consultant. The plan so prepared may be taken up for implementation after approval in the Municipal Council. Tambaram, is a special grade municipality in Kanchipuram District.

Water Supply And Initiatives Taken By The Municipality To Improve The Distribution System

The main source of water supply is river Palar at a distance of 40 Km away from the town. The total quantity of water supplied for the town is about 166.90 MLD with a per capita level of 101.15 lpcd. The coverage of the distribution system is 100%. Water supply is being supplemented through 446 bore wells and 16 power pumps.

Under the Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) scheme, the municipality has provided free House Service Connections to 350 BPL families by providing additional distribution mains. To tackle the situation during summer, the municipality has provided 459 additional deep wells with power pumps. Five water tankers are engaged for supplying water where low pressure prevailing in the distribution system and water is being supplied through 154 HDPE water storage tanks.

Under Ground Sewerage Scheme:

Tambaram Under Ground Sewerage Scheme is under implementation by Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) with a project cost of Rs.160.96 crore under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). The total length of sewer mains proposed is 176.551 km. Under the above scheme, 12 sewage pumping stations and 5 sewage lifting have been proposed under the scheme and all are under progress. About 42% of the work has been completed and balance work is under progress. The project is expected to be completed in July 2013.

By taking consideration of the land scarcity faced by every local bodies, the municipal council has resolved to install modern technology which consumes less space. The Sewerage Treatment Plant has been proposed with most modern technology called Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) in the land identified at Mannurankulam. The Public Works Department has given No Objection Certificate for the disposal of treated effluent into the Pappan Channel which leads to Adyar River. The TNPCB has accorded "Consent to Establish" the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Traffic and Transportation

Tambaram is well connected with the rest of the city through MTC buses. The buses presently halt at the bus shelter outside the Tambaram Railway Station. A new bus terminus in Tambaram is under construction and is expected to be completed by late 2012. The terminus was first proposed in 2005, near the IAF base in Tambaram, and it was later shifted near the National Institute of Sidha. The work began in June 2011, when 4.26 acres (1.72 ha) of land was allocated to Tambaram

Municipality to set up a bus terminus with al project cost is 4.95 crore. The new bus terminus will have a waiting lounge, a cloak room, 27 bus bays, 19 bus shelters, 36 shops, hotels, drinking water facilities and toilets. When it is completed, the MTC is planning to use the new terminus to operate buses especially to fast-growing suburbs around Tambaram, like Mannivakkam and Ponmar. A flyover was completed in August 2011 connecting Velachery main Road, Mudichur Road and GST Road over the railway track.

Initially the only connection was via underpass and a railway level crossing, which used to cause huge congestion on the Arterial GST Road (NH45). The new flyover is helping the people to move between east and west Tambaram more easily.

Road improvement - Initiatives taken by the Municipality.

As the Under Ground Sewerage scheme is under execution by the Chennai Metropolitan Water supply and Sewerage Board, about 72 km of roads have been damaged due to execution of the above scheme. Roads in the areas where UGS works have already been completed, restoration and improvement has been carried out by providing BT/CC pavement for about 15.314km of roads under SRP at a cost of Rs.737.41 crores, 15.393 KM of roads at a cost of Rs.10.81 crores under TURIP and 7.50 km for Rs. 323.50 crores under the municipal general funds. Further, restoration and relaying by providing BT/CC pavement has been proposed for a length of 36.039 km at an estimated cost of Rs.2416.65 crore under TURIP 2012-13 and necessary proposals have been sent to Government.



Old GST Road



IOB Colony 1st & 2nd street

Signage And Display Boards

All the major roads have been provided with uniform Retro Reflective Signages including sign boards and road markings with proper visibility and with clearly earmarking the street names, including way finding signs, cautionary/mandatory/ warning signs, reflective studs etc. for better traffic management.

Based on the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to utilize the plastic waste, the Municipality for the first time has taken the initiative of laying 2 plastic roads to a length of **1.420 km** at a cost of **Rs. 34.30 Lakhs**. Further, it has been proposed to use plastic waste for laying all the bituminous roads proposed further during the current year 2012-2013.



Financial Management

Tax Collection:

Demand /Collection and collection efficiency

The total number of Property Tax assessments of Tambaram Municipality is 32580. Apart from this, about 11427 Water Supply House Service connections, 803 Vacant Land Tax assessments, 343 Non-Tax items and 4838 Profession Tax assessments as on 31.07.2012.

The entire data relating to Property Tax, Water Supply connection and Non-Tax items has been computerized since 2000 and the demands for all of the above items are generated through computer and the entire process of collection of the taxes and fees is being carried out through online.

In respect of property tax, the municipality has collected Rs. 834.82/- Lakhs as against the collectable demand of Rs. 887.49 Lakhs which accounts for a collection efficiency of 91.03%. About 2261 nos. of New Property Tax assessments have been made during the year 2011-12.

“SNEGAM”- Citizen Facilitation Centres

As a first local body institution of Tamil Nadu, Tambaram Municipality takes pride and immense pleasure in announcing that our administration has embraced **E-Governance in the year 2000**. The municipality has set up Citizen Facilitation Centres, one at Municipal Office, another two are functioning in West Tambaram and East Tambaram.

Through this Citizen Facilitation Centres the citizens to check status of property tax, profession tax, water charges etc., and make payments from the banks itself without having to come to the Municipal office. Further if the citizens pay the tax at the Citizen Facilitation Centres this status is immediately updated at the central database in the Municipal office using the network

At present the Citizen Facilitation Centres offer the following services under our E-governance program.

- Issue of Birth and Death Certificate
- Issue of Building Licenses
- Complaint Redressal System

Property Survey through GIS

As an innovative measure towards augmentation of revenue, a pilot study is being under process that surveying of all the properties including all the buildings and vacant lands using Geographical Information System (GIS) and Ward 17 has been identified to start with.

Rejuvenation of Water Bodies:

About 6 water bodies situated within the municipal limits. Due to rapid urbanization, the areas surrounding many of the tanks and lakes have been encroached upon and residential buildings have been built up. As a result, the catchment area contributing to the tanks and lakes no more exists. There is an urgent need for taking necessary measures to restore the water bodies so that they can fulfill fresh water needs in the area in future as well as a rain water harvesting measure. The water bodies have been rejuvenated and beautification measures have been taken up by making provision of landscaping, foot path, seating benches, lighting etc.



Park And Play Field:

Tambaram Municipality has 15 parks and the same are being maintained. The above places are the lungspaces of the town. The parks have been improved with provision of walking track, water falls 9 cascades, ornamental fountain, seating benches, lighting arrangements, artificial pond, play area for children etc.,

Muthurangam park in west Tambaram area has been handed over to M/s. Hindu Mission Trust for maintenance. Gandhi Park in East Tambaram area was handed over to M/s. VAS Media P. Ltd for maintenance and further improvement.



Basic Services To Urban Poor

With a view to making the Tambaram as slum free City, a sum of Rs. 15.06 crores has been sanctioned under the BSUP of JNNURM for taking up in-situ constructions of 690 houses in the 13 slums, besides providing all infrastructure facilities in the above slums.

As on date, 385 houses have been completed and balances are under various stages. Infrastructure works numbering 57 have been completed with an expenditure of Rs. 8.51 crores made make it usable to the public.



Desilting of Rain water canals:-

The inlet and outlet channels to all water bodies and storm water drains have been desilted in order to control the inundation during the monsoon.



Meeting With The Chennai Municipal Corporation Office :

Discussion was held on the MPLADS, MLAADS and other Development Schemes and their annual budgeting etc. It is informed that there are 2 Lok Sabha constituencies and 18 Assembly Constituencies under CMC. They received fund for implementation of the schemes from the District Collector. The engineering wings of the corporation look after these schemes under an Asstt. Executive engineer. The Chennai Municipal Corporation Collect Revenue more than Rs. 800.00 crore in a financial year from property Tax. It also has CCP (City Corporate Plan) which brought corporate house and citizen for execution of developmental programme.



Meeting with CMC engineers



View of Carzon Hall



List of donors and donated amount for const. of Carzon Hall in 1886

Summary of Findings

1. Tamil Nadu has been one of the most progressive and developing state in India. Tamil Nadu has the highest level of urbanization (49%) against 9.6% of India's urban population.
2. Tamil Nadu has maintained a perfect balance between agricultural production and industrial development.
3. Tamil Nadu has achieved levels of human development superior to most states in India.
4. The state has maintained 10% GSDP growth. After nineties the state has made tremendous development in Education, Health, Science & Technology Transport and Communication etc.
5. The Planning Development and Special Initiatives Department has three wings. Its offices are outside the secretariat campus. These are :

- i . State Planning Commission
- li . Department of Economics and Statistics
- iii. Department of Evaluation and Applied Research.

The State Planning Commission is an Advisory Body to make recommendations to the Government on various matters pertaining to the development of the State. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Planning Development and Special Initiatives and the Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department is ex-officio Members. The major functions of the State Planning Commission are as follows:

- (a) Preparation of Five Year and Annual Plans based on the policies and priorities of the Government;
 - (b) Undertake Mid Term review of the Five Year Plan, other special reviews on the Economy and advise the Government on appropriate modification and restructuring of the schemes;
 - (c) Monitor development indicators that influence the Human Development Index, Gender Development Index, etc. at a disaggregated level and suggest correctional measures;
 - (d) Undertake special studies as required for formulation and implementation of plan projects and programmes;
6. The State's Annual Plan largely follows the objectives and priorities of the Five Year Plan of the State as well as those of the central sector plan. The draft Annual Plan 2012-13 has been prepared for an outlay of Rs. 28,000 crores, which is almost 19% more than the outlay of Annual Plan 2011-12 (Rs. 23,835 crores).

7. Vision 2023 Tamil Nadu identifies ten themes for the state as follows:

Tamil Nadu will be amongst India's most economically prosperous states by 2023, and proposed to

- i. achieve a six-fold growth in per capita income (in real terms) over the next 11 years,
- ii. be a poverty free state with opportunities for gainful and productive employment for all those who seek it,
- iii. be India's leading state in social development and will have the highest Human Development Index (HDI) amongst all Indian states,
- iii. provide the best infrastructure services in India in terms of universal access to Housing, Water & Sanitation, Energy, Transportation, Irrigation, Connectivity, Healthcare, and Education.
- v. be one of the top three preferred investment destinations in Asia and the most preferred in India with a reputation for efficiency and competitiveness.
- vi. be known as the innovative hub and knowledge capital of India, on the strength of world class institutions in various fields and the best human talent.

8. Expenditure exceeded approved outlay during the Eleventh Plan period every year. Rigidity, accountability, proper monitoring and reviewing works properly in this regard are the main factors of the success story. Once plan is finalized it must be materialized. Fund is released in two installments in June and December.
9. **Annual Plan 2012 – 2013**
The Annual Plan 2012-2013 is the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017). The size of the Annual Plan for 2012-2013 has been proposed at Rs.28,000 crores. The Plan scheme components and size will be finalized during the discussion to be held between the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Deputy Chairman, Union Planning Commission at New Delhi.
10. **Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012 – 2017**
Activities for formulating the Twelfth Five Year Plan of the State has been taken up by the State Planning Commission. The Commission's draft Report proposes to hike the outlay to an ambitious target of Rs. 2.00 lakh crores for Plan schemes over the Twelfth Five Year Plan period, which is 2.34 times the outlay of Rs.85,344 crores during the Eleventh Five Year Plan keeping in view the ambitious vision 2023.
11. **Tamil Nadu State Land Use Plan** : The purpose of the plan is (a) to assess the land resources, provide advice to Government for policy planning, co-ordination, develop an over view and possible priorities for land use changes, especially in the diversion of fertile agriculture land, development of waste land and marginal land for alternative uses to conserve and manage land and water resources ;
12. **Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.** It oversees all matters pertaining to Panchayat Raj Institutions in the State as well as the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes like PMGSY, RIDF(NABARD), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), IAY, MPLADS, etc. and State-funded Schemes like Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement Scheme(THAI), MLACDS, Self Sufficiency Scheme, Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme etc.
13. There are 12,620 Village Panchayats, 385 Panchayat Unions (co-terminus with Blocks) and 31 District Panchayats under the purview of the Department.
14. Except MGNREGA there is no provision in any government project to construct earthen road. All roads are either BT or Cement Concrete Road .
15. MPLADS and MLACDS Schemes are implemented by the Blocks through tendering system.
16. There is no provision for constructing of any work by construction committee. User Groups and NGOs are engaged for maintaining the assets only.
17. Technical Sanctioning Powers are devolved to lower level for speeding up implementation of Works.
18. All the beneficiaries are selected in the Gram Sabha meeting which are held 4 times in a year. Gram Sabha select the work site, priorities the list of schemes/ beneficiaries etc.
19. All the departments have to face social audit before Gram Sabha which brings transparency and confidence with the Government .
20. There are 10 Municipal Corporations, 125 Municipalities and 524 Town Panchayats. These Urban bodies are economically self sufficient and are capable of providing basic amenities to the citizen.

Recommendations

- 1. Innovative Schemes like THAI, CMSPGHS, SSS, may be introduced.**
- 2. Solar Power Green House Schemes will be very effective in the remote areas where electricity connection is not viable/available.**
- 3. Except MGNREGA and River Embankment, construction of earthen road may not be allowed. Roads constructed under various programme like MPLADS, MLAADS, Untied fund scheme etc. may be BT or CC road.**
- 4. All the departments may face social audit before Gram Sabha which may bring transparency and confidence in the Government.**
- 5. Technical Sanctioning Power may be devolved to lower level (up to Asstt. Engineer) for Speeding up implementation of works.**
- 6. MLAADS fund may have a tied and untied component.**
- 7. Assam may also have a land use plan like that of Tamil Nadu.**
- 8. Unit cost of IAY houses may be increased by increasing state share.**
- 9. Concept of construction committee may be dropped. All works may be executed by line department.**
